

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Tree Cutting – Visakhapatnam District – Permission to cut and transport of Teak and Non-Teak trees lying in the Patta lands of the Tribal farmers, duly relaxing Rule 8 of AP Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978 - Accorded - Orders issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT.

G.O.Rt.No.78.

Dated: 15-02-2013.

Read the following:-

1. GO. Rt. No. 211, EFS&T (For.I) Dept. Dated. 10-5-2011.
2. GO. Rt. No. 223, EFS&T (For.I) Dept. Dated. 17-5-2011.
3. GO. Rt. No. 374, EFS&T (For.I) Dept. Dated. 12-8-2011.
4. GO. Rt. No. 164, EFS&T (For.I) Department, Dated. 03-04-2012
5. Representation of the Scheduled Tribe Ryots of Paderu Division of Visakhapatnam District, dated: 01-01-2013.

ORDER:

In the references 1st to 3rd read above, Government have issued orders permitting the District Collector, Visakhapatnam to allow the applicants to cut and transport the Teak and Non-Teak trees which are having more than 120 Cms girth, from their respective Patta lands, subject to payment of Security Deposit of 10% of value of produce by the applicants with the Divisional Forest Officer, which will be released soon after the transport of produce satisfactorily.

2. In the joint representation 5th read above, the Scheduled Tribe Ryots of Visakhapatnam District have represented to the Government stating that the Government have issued orders in the references 1st to 3rd read above, permitting them to cut and transport Teak and Non-Teak trees from their patta lands in Paderu Division for their family needs, subject to payment of Security Deposit of 10% of value of the produce by the applicants with the Divisional Forest Officer. They also stated that the District Collector, Visakhapatnam, has accorded felling permission in favour of the applicants and requested the Divisional Forest Officer to take further action for grant of permission as required under Sub-Rule 2 of Rule 28 (b) of Andhra Pradesh, Forest Act, 1967. When they started felling, Forest Officials in Visakhapatnam District have objected and informed that the Forest Department will cut and transport the trees to Depot and sell it and pay the value in instalments. They have further represented that by following this procedure, abnormal delay is caused as the Forest Department is under staffed. Delays are also occurring in cutting and transport of the produce to the Depot. As a result, they are not able to cultivate the crops and not earning livelihood. Because of the delay, their financial problems are mounting. Therefore, they are not able to meet the day to day expenses, including children education, family expenditure and health care etc.

3. The Tribal Ryots have further represented that the Government in G.O.Rt. No.164, EFS&T (For.I) Department, dt.03-04-2012 issued orders permitting for cutting of Teak and Non-Teak trees existing in patta lands, in favour of certain Tribal farmers of Visakhapatnam District, duly relaxing Rule 8 of Andhra Pradesh Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978. They have finally requested the Government to accord permission for cutting and transportation of all the Teak and Non-teak trees for which the Government have already accorded permission in the G.Os. 1st to 3rd read above, duly relaxing Rule 8 of A.P. Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978, on par with the other Tribal farmers of Visakhapatnam District to whom the relaxation was accorded vide G.O. Rt No. 164, EFS&T (For.I) Department, dated. 03-04-2012.

(Contd-2)

4. Government after careful examination of the representation of the Tribal farmers of Visakhapatnam District, hereby accord permission for cutting and transportation of all the Teak and Non-Teak trees for which permissions were already accorded by Government in the references 1st to 3rd read above, duly relaxing the procedure laid down in Rule 8 of Andhra Pradesh Preservation of Private Forest Rules, 1978 in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 28 B (3) of A.P. Forest Act, 1967, on par with the other Tribal farmers of Visakhapatnam District to whom the relaxation was accorded vide reference 4th read above, as the orders issued in the references 1st to 3rd read above, were issued prior to issue of orders issued in G.O. Rt. No. 164, EFS&T (For.I) Department, Dated. 03-04-2012.

5. The District Collector, Visakhapatnam is directed to take further necessary action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)
M. SAMUEL,
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To
The District Collector, Visakhapatnam
Copy to
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.- For information.
The P.S. to M (FES&T).
SC/SF

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER.